

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 65th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

Call to Order: Chair Staffanson, on March 9, 2017 at 3:00 PM, in Room 137 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Gordon Pierson Jr, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Scott Staffanson, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Fred Anderson (R)
Rep. Jacob Bachmeier (D)
Rep. Bryce Bennett (D)
Rep. Willis Curdy (D)
Rep. Moffie Funk (D)
Rep. Bill Harris (R)
Rep. Wendy McKamey (R)
Rep. Dale Mortensen (R)
Rep. James O'Hara (R)
Rep. Andrea Olsen (D)
Rep. Zac Perry (D)
Rep. Vince Ricci (R)
Rep. Walt Sales (R)
Rep. Peggy Webb (R)
Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy (D)

Members Excused:

Rep. Becky Beard (R)
Rep. John Fleming (D)
Rep. Jim Hamilton (D)
Rep. Dennis R. Lenz (R)
Rep. Lola Sheldon-Galloway (R)
Rep. Alan Redfield, Chair (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Sydney Kessel, Committee Secretary
Jason Mohr, Legislative Branch

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 466, 2/27/2017; SB 73, 2/27/2017

HEARING ON SB 73**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:01:23 Sen. Pat Connell (R), SD 43, opened the hearing on SB 73, Revise laws related to livestock loss.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:09:56 Marc Cooke, Wolves of the Rockies

[EXHIBIT](#)(agh49a01)

00:13:00 George Edwards, Livestock Loss Board

00:13:40 Rep. Hamilton joins meeting

00:14:30 Nick Gevock, Montana Wildlife Federation (MWF) & National Wildlife Federation (NWF)

[EXHIBIT](#)(agh49a02)

00:17:43 Maggie Nutter, Livestock Association

00:20:57 Shantil Siaperas, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

00:21:35 Jim Brown, Montana Wool Growers Association (MWGA)

[EXHIBIT](#)(agh49a03)

[EXHIBIT](#)(agh49a04)

00:24:43 Nicole Rolf, Montana Farm Bureau Federation (MFBF)

00:25:45 Kori Anderson, Montana Stock Growers Association (MSGa) & Montana Cattle Woman (MTCW)

00:26:47 Levi Ostberg, Montana Farmers Union (MFU)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:28:16 Vice Chair Staffanson

00:28:36 George Edwards, Live Stock Loss Board

00:29:17 Vice Chair Staffanson

00:29:28 George Edwards, Live Stock Loss Board

00:30:17 Rep. McKamey

00:30:36 George Edwards, Live Stock Loss Board

00:32:24 Rep. Bennett

00:32:59 Sen. Connell

00:33:43 George Edwards, Live Stock Loss Board

00:34:47 Rep. Bennett

00:34:58 George Edwards, Live Stock Loss Board

00:35:29 Rep. Bennett

00:35:49 Rep. Curdy

00:36:09 George Edwards, Live Stock Loss Board

Closing by Sponsor:

00:36:55 Sen. Connell

[EXHIBIT](#)(agh49a05)

00:37:09 Rep. Beard joins meeting
00:39:12 Jason Mohr, Legislative Service Division (LSD)
00:39:52 Sen. Connell

HEARING ON HB 466

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:41:18 Rep. Scott Staffanson (R), HD 35, opened the hearing on HB 466, Allows credit and debit card purchases as evidence for agricultural use estimate.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:44:21 Nicole Rolf, Montana Farm Bureau Federation (MFBF)
00:45:08 Kori Anderson, Montana Stock Growers Association (MSGA) & Montana Cattle Women (MTCA)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

00:45:58 Tracey Halubka, Department of Transportation

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:46:27 Rep. Curdy
00:46:30 Rep. Fleming joins meeting
00:47:09 Rep. Staffanson
00:47:26 Rep. Curdy
00:47:44 Rep. Staffanson
00:49:02 Rep. Sales
00:49:43 Rep. Staffanson
00:50:40 Rep. Sales
00:51:21 Tracey Halubka, Department of Transportation
00:51:53 Rep. McKamey
00:52:18 Rep. Staffanson

Closing by Sponsor:

00:53:40 Rep. Staffanson

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 00:54:06

Sydney Kessel, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([agh49aad.pdf](#))